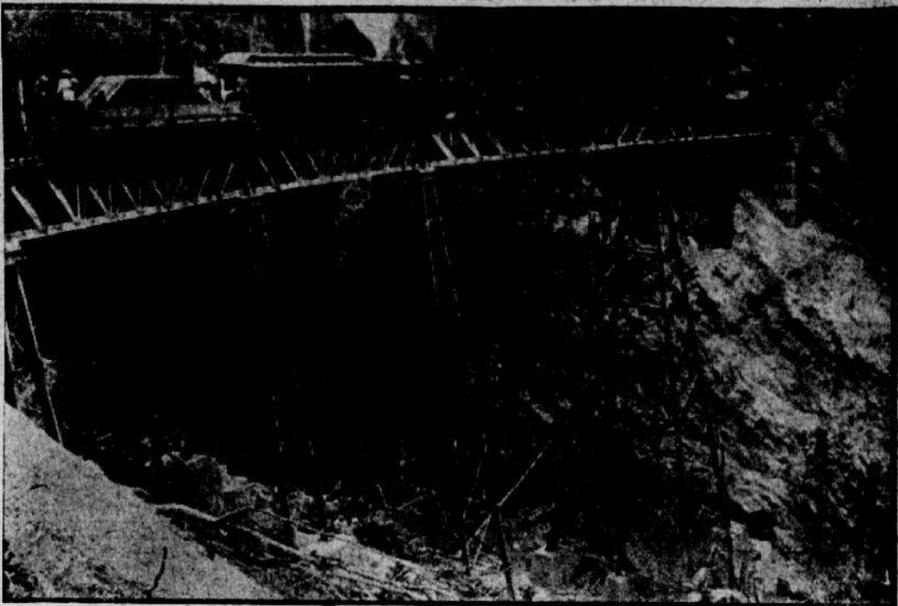
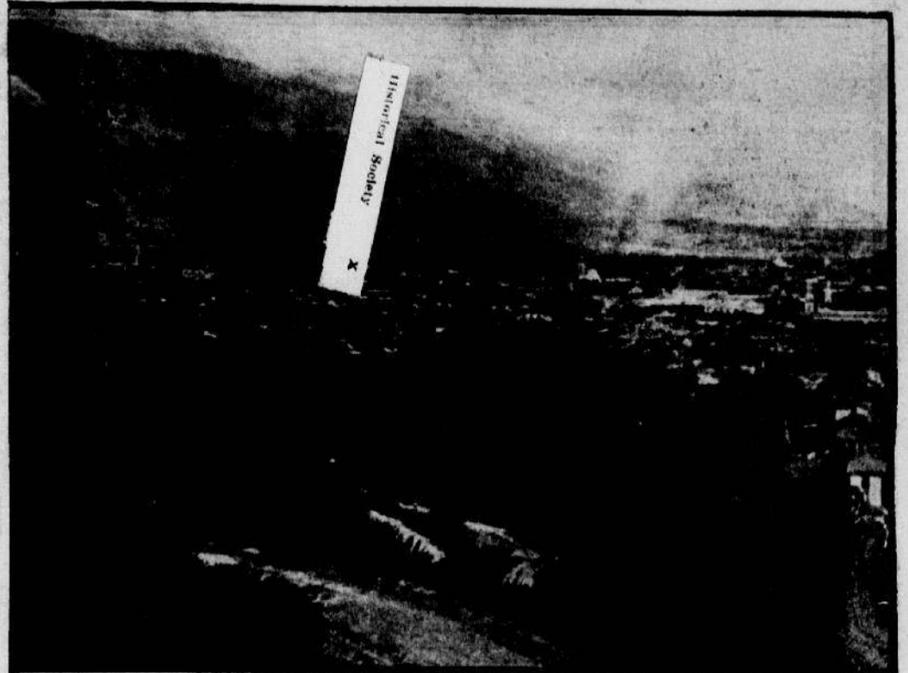


WAR HAS GONE TOO FAR FOR ARBITRATION NOW



Scene on the great German railway in Venezuela, connecting Valencia and Caracas. It is over this road that Castro has been hurrying his troops for the concentration.



Birds-eye view of Caracas, which the British and German marines will undoubtedly attempt to seize, should an actual invasion be made.

NOT THOUGHT ARBITRATION CAN COME AT WASHINGTON

But Rumor Hath It That Venezuelan Government Has Requested Bowen to Act

GERMANY SAYS BRITISH SUNK THOSE VESSELS

And the British Are Falling All Over Themselves in Explaining That It Was the Kaiser's Ships That Did the Firing—Something of the Cause of the Fracas and Where the United States Is Expected to Stand in the Matter.

Washington, Dec. 12.—A cablegram received at the state department today from Minister Bowen at Caracas states that the Venezuelan government has requested him to propose to Great Britain and Germany that the difficulties arising out of the claims for alleged damages and injuries to British and German subjects during the civil war be submitted to arbitration.

BRITISH SAY GERMANS SANK THOSE VESSELS

London, Dec. 12.—The foreign office informs the Associated Press that the British government disclaims responsibility for the sinking of the Venezuelan vessels at La Guayra, which it entirely attributes to the German forces.

It is understood that nearly all of the Venezuelan news which the British government gets comes through the state department at Washington, and is based on Minister Bowen's messages. The foreign office here so far, however, has received no trace of the reply to the demands of Great Britain and Germany which Venezuela is reported to have transmitted to those powers through the United States consul at La Guayra, though it has officially received a copy of President Castro's proclamation. The foreign office officials also say that they had not received information to the effect that Venezuela has required Mr. Bowen to act as arbitrator. They think it is likely that the proposition has been made, but if such is the case they do not consider that arbitration at this stage would be acceptable to Great Britain.

SAY CASTRO WORKS A GAME OF BLUFF

Berlin, Dec. 12.—President Castro's public utterances and war preparations are regarded in official quarters here as "designed to see how far the allies are willing to go as a test of the further attitude of the administration at Washington and, above all, as efforts to unite his own peo-

ple and reconcile them to his dictatorship." The foreign office received a cable yesterday from the German charge d'affaires, Herr von Pilgrim-Baltazzi, filed at La Guayra. This is a sure indication that the

(Continued on Page Three.)

SAY PRESSLEY COULD HAVE CUT HIS THROAT

Expert Witnesses in Rebuttal at Missoula Murder Trial Contradict Belief of Dr. Campau, Who Thought Accused Could Not Have Inflicted Wound Upon Himself--Witnesses Testifying as to Mrs. Pressley's Bad Character Are Heard--Case Will Go to the Jury Late This Afternoon or Early Tomorrow--What Was the Nature of Testimony Today.

SPECIAL TO THE INTER MOUNTAIN. Missoula, Dec. 12.—All the evidence has been presented in the Pressley murder trial, the lawyers are making their argument this afternoon and late this afternoon or early this evening the case will be given into the hands of the jury. Expert evidence in rebuttal was the feature of the day's proceedings. Dr. Campau's positive evidence, given for the defense yesterday, was that it was absolutely impossible for Pressley to have cut his own throat in the manner in which it was

wounded. This was the point on which the experts testified. Experts heard today were Drs. Mitchell and Fitzgerald. They admitted that the wound was peculiar, but they declared that it was possible for Pressley to have made the wound with his own hands. They flatly contradicted the testimony of Dr. Campau as to what could and could not be done by a man with a knife in his hands. William Streeter, justice of the peace at Superior, was another witness in rebuttal. He testified that some time previous to the death of Mrs. Pressley she had a conversation with him in which she told him that her husband had beaten, kicked and otherwise abused her. Streeter testified further that later he saw Pressley and

had a talk with him in which Pressley denied having beaten his wife, but admitted that he had slapped her once. On the conclusion of this testimony the defense put Pressley on the stand in rebuttal. He swore positively that he never had any such conversation with Streeter. At 11 o'clock this morning the taking of testimony ceased. Then an adjournment was taken until 1:30 o'clock, at which time the court delivered the charge to the jury. Following this the state's attorneys began the argument. At yesterday afternoon's session Dr. G. T. McCullough testified that Mrs. Pressley was never in a conscious state after she was found until she died. He declared

that she did not seem to be conscious on the day that she told Mrs. Merrick that her husband had committed the assault. She could not give intelligent answers and could not carry a train of thought. Dr. J. T. Brown said that Pressley could have cut his own throat, but could not have done so had he been lying down at the time. The witness corroborated Dr. McCullough's testimony regarding the unconscious condition of Mrs. Pressley. Dr. Campau, recalled, said Mrs. Pressley could not have been in a conscious state from the time of the assault to the time of her death. Several witnesses to Pressley's good character followed. Others to Mrs. Pressley's evil reputation also were heard.

BOZEMAN MAN IS TO SUCCEED HOLLOWAY

SPECIAL TO THE INTER MOUNTAIN. Helena, Dec. 12.—Governor Toole today appointed W. R. C. Stewart of Bozeman judge of the Ninth judicial district, embracing the counties of Gallatin,

Meagher and Broadwater, to succeed Judge W. L. Holloway, who has resigned on account of having been elected associate justice of the supreme court. The appointment was made this morning.

W. R. C. Stewart was born March 21, 1866, in Monroe county, Ohio, of Scotch-Irish parentage. He resided in Ohio until he was 16 years old, when he went to Kansas and Missouri. He left Kansas

City in 1892 to take a position with the law firm of Luce & Luce in Bozeman. Prior to coming to Montana Mr. Stewart had studied law, and in 1894 he was admitted to the Montana bar. In 1895 he became associated with the law firm of Hartman & Hartman and in 1898 he was elected county attorney of Gallatin county. Since 1899 he has been conducting his law business alone. Mr. Stewart married Miss Ethel Armstrong of Kansas City in March, 1894, and is now the father of two children. In 1900 he was the candidate for attorney general on the independent democratic ticket. At present he is a member of the Bozeman school board.

POLICE WOULD SEE HIM WITH PLEASURE

HUNTING FOR H. G. WILLIAMSON, WHOM HIS WIFE HAS CHARGED WITH FAILURE TO SUPPORT.

H. G. Williamson, a resident of East Butte, is wanted by the authorities on a complaint sworn to by his wife charging him with non-support. A careful search indicates that Williamson has left the city, probably in anticipation of his wife's action. Mrs. Williamson asserts that she has not received any share of her husband's earnings for a long time, and that he has failed utterly to provide for their child, Ruth, aged 2 years. The officer who investigated the case reported that Williamson had not lived with his wife for 14 months. A similar charge was made against her husband by Mrs. Williamson about a year ago, but the difficulty was adjusted in some manner at that time. Madrid, Dec. 12.—Senor Leon y Castillo, the Spanish ambassador at Paris, has resigned.

RAIN OF BOULDERS CRUSH OUT BREATH

GEORGE ROBERTSON IS INSTANTLY KILLED BY A FALL OF ROCK IN ST. LAWRENCE.

George Robertson, a miner, was instantly killed at the St. Lawrence mine in an early hour this morning by a fall of rock. Robertson and several miners were employed on the first floor of the 800-foot level. They were about to put in another set of timbers when the hanging wall suddenly gave way, burying Robertson beneath its terrible weight. Life was extinct when the unfortunate man was taken from beneath the pile of rock. His head was badly cut and bruised and his face mangled. He was taken to the Montana undertaking establishment, where Coroner Johnson will hold an inquest into his death at 7:30 this evening. Robertson was unmarried. But little is known of his relatives. He boarded at the Florence hotel on East Broadway, having come there last August. He was about 35 years of age.

SEARCH THE RIVER FOR MAN'S BODY

BELIEVED THAT JOHN PALLADIN WAS MURDERED AND HIS REMAINS CAST INTO MISSOURI.

SPECIAL TO THE INTER MOUNTAIN. Missoula, Dec. 12.—It is believed that John Palladin, a stonemason, who has resided here for several years, has been murdered and his body thrown into the Missouri river. Palladin, who is a married man with a family, disappeared from his home last Friday. His friends have been searching for him several days, but have been unable to get any clue to his whereabouts. At the time he left home he had between \$40 and \$45 on his person. His movements have been traced for several hours after he left his own house. It is known that he visited a saloon on Front street and that he left there, but beyond this the searchers have been unable to proceed. One clue led them as far away as the Big Blackfoot, only to fizzle out there. Another led to the foothills back of the city, but that also proved to be in error. Now Palladin's friends have about concluded that he met the fate of John Maley, who a year ago was murdered and his body thrown into the river. This afternoon the river is being dredged in hopes of finding the body.

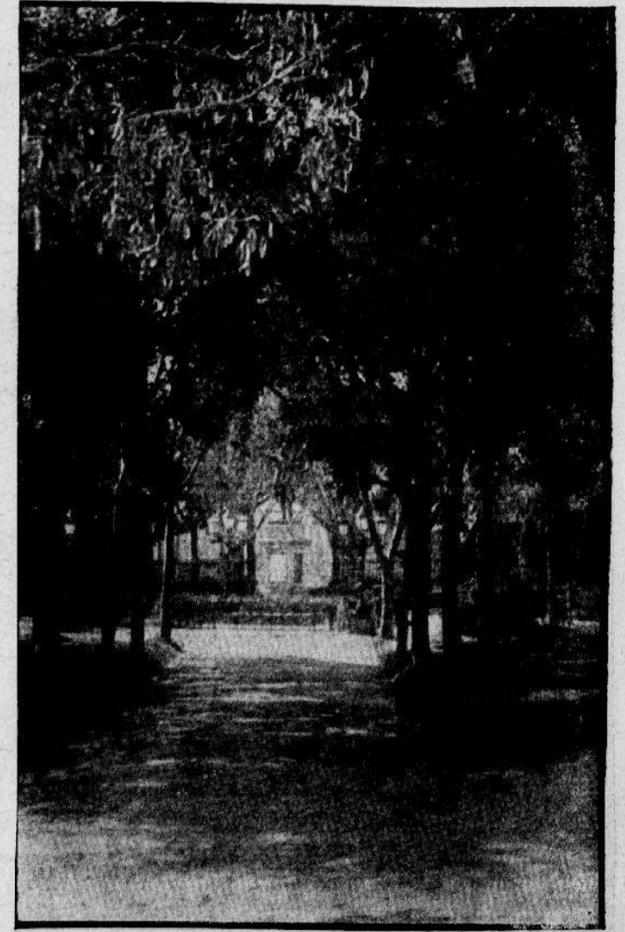
JURY FAILS TO AGREE IN THE WALDON CASE

He is Suing for Injuries Received in a Railway Accident on the N. P. Near Missoula in 1896.

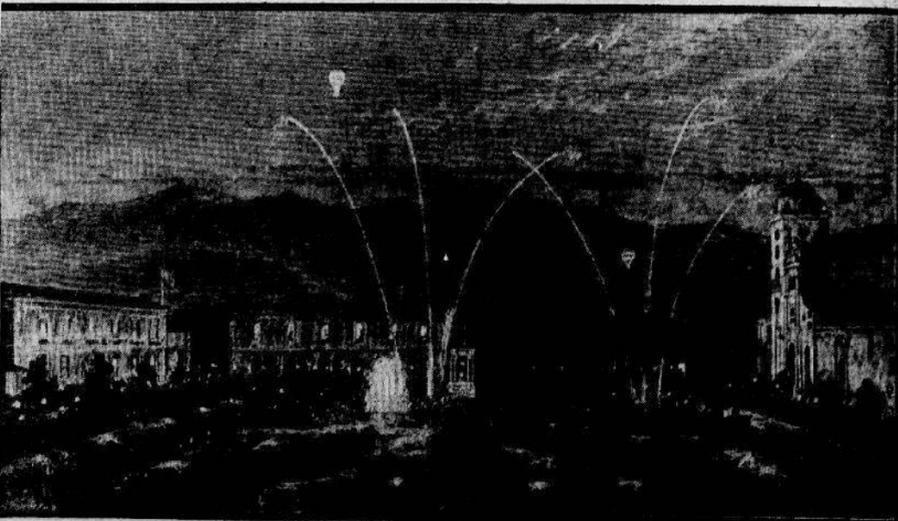
Helena, Dec. 12.—At the opening of the United States court this morning the jury in the damage case of E. A. Waldon vs. the Northern Pacific Railway company reported that it could not agree. It was discharged accordingly. The case was given to the jury at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon. Waldon sued for \$15,000 damages for personal injuries received in a railway accident west of Missoula in December, 1896.

LA BONTA CASE TOMORROW

Will Plead to Murder Charge Before Judge McClernan. Madame Ruth LaBonta will be taken before Judge McClernan tomorrow morning to plead to the charge of murder. It is possible that the court will name a day for the opening of the trial of the case.



Washington Plaza, Caracas, a beautiful square, named after the father of the American Republic, for whom the liberty-loving Venezuelans have a great admiration.



The Plaza de Bolivar, in Caracas, one of the delightful spots in Castro's beautiful capital, now filled with clang of sabers and rattle of drums.

ROSEBUD JUSTICE IS IN THE RIGHT IN STAND HE TOOK

Verdict of Miles City Court Sustains McRae in His Action Against the Board.

COMMISSIONERS HAD CASE IN CUSTER COUNTY COURT

But in His Decision on the Habeas Corpus, Judge Loud Fully Affirms the Authority of Justice McRae as a Defacto Official of Rosebud County—Important Point Reached in the Fight Against the Alleged Colonizers.

Miles City, Dec. 12.—Judge Loud has just rendered a decision in a habeas corpus proceeding brought by the county commissioners of Rosebud county, fully affirming the authority of Justice of the Peace Roderick McRae as a defacto official of that county. The commissioners had declared McRae's office vacant and sequestered his docket. McRae then fined and jailed them, and also the county clerk, for contempt. Following the decision of Judge Loud this sentence holds. This whole proceeding is a sequel to an investigation of the alleged colonization of voters in Rosebud county by Augustus Heinze prior to the late election, about which there appears to be plenty of trouble impending.